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**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 24<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP  
(18<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2016):**

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW  
OF NIGER ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2016**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA DELIVERED BY MR.  
EBENEZER APPREKU, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I, ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
JANUARY, 2016**

I thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor

Ghana warmly welcomes the delegation of Niger to the 24th Session of the UPR Working Group. Ghana notes with appreciation that Niger accepted 110 recommendations out of 112 made during its first cycle review, and drew up a 2012-2015 Action Plan aimed at implementing the recommendations.

Ghana shares the concerns of Niger in respect of the threat posed by terrorists to the enjoyment of human rights in Niger and wish you the people of Niger success in overcoming the menace of terrorism in all its manifestations.

Ghana is however concerned about alleged reports of intimidation and ill-treatment by security agencies of human rights defenders and journalists and other civilians for exercising their rights to free speech, peaceful assembly and religion.

Ghana wishes to make the following recommendations for the consideration of Niger:

- To take steps to halt all intimidations and harassment by law enforcement officials against human rights defenders.
- To Take steps to open prompt, impartial, thorough and effective investigations into alleged violations of international human rights law committed by law enforcement agencies in order to bring all the perpetrators to justice;
- To accede to the Convention on the Non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity; and
- To ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances.

We wish Niger success with its second cycle review.

I thank you Mr. President.